

Adkins Named Head Coach At East Wilkes

Written by Mike Kelly

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Former Watauga High assistant coach J.K. Adkins has been named the new head coach at East Wilkes High School.

He replaces Monty Chipman, who led East Wilkes for

nine years (2003-11). The Cardinals, a Class 1A school and a member of the Mountain Valley 1A/2A Conference, were 3-8 last season and missed the state playoffs.

Adkins, who was WHS's defensive coordinator in 1999, spent the last two years as an assistant coach at Salisbury, which won the Class 2AA state title in 2010. He's also been a head coach at South Irdell, where he led that program to the third round of the state playoffs by his second year. He was also the head coach at Patton.

Adkins played football at Freedom High School, and he graduated from Appalachian State University. The Cardinals have had two winning seasons in the last nine years. Ashe County is still looking for a new football coach. Bill Strong stepped down on December 5, and he will officially retire in January 1.